

14. The method of claim 13 in which the screening includes detecting a pattern in the file.

15. The method of claim 2 in which the decoding includes performing at least one statistical analysis.

16. The method of claim 2 in which said obtaining includes automatic computer downloading of image or audio files, without specific human instruction of particular files to be downloaded.

17. The method of claim 2 in which the decoded watermark data provides a reference to a registry database, and the method further includes obtaining additional data from the registry database by use of said reference, said additional data identifying the proprietor of the file from which said watermark data was decoded.

18. The method of claim 2 including generating reports relating to results of said monitoring, and sending said reports to said determined proprietors.--

REMARKS

After entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 2-18 are pending in the application.

The submitted specification is identical to allowed parent application 08/649,419 (filed May 16, 1996), except that Appendix A has been omitted. (Appendix A and B are both believed to be non-essential. However, Appendix B is included with the submitted specification. It may be canceled later.)

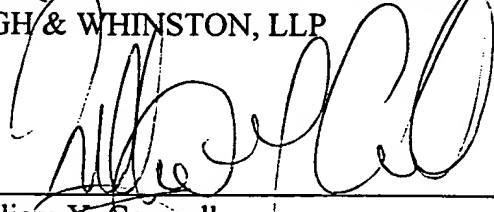
Applicant intends that the above-amended Background/Summary of the Invention discussion introduce no new matter, so all claimed subject matter is entitled to a priority date at least as early as May 16, 1996. (Support for such text is found, e.g., in the discussion entitled MONITORING STATIONS AND MONITORING SERVICES, extending between page 79, line

22 and page 80, line 34. This just-cited text is also found in applicant's May 8, 1995, priority application, so claims drawn therefrom should be entitled to a May, 1995, priority date. Support for the screening step is also found, e.g., in the discussion entitled METHOD FOR EMBEDDING SUBLIMINAL REGISTRATION PATTERNS INTO IMAGES AND OTHER SIGNALS, beginning on page 81.)

Favorable consideration and passage to issuance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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